

NCLB Making a Difference in North Carolina



- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for North Carolina to more than \$2.5 billion – 54% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$290.9 million – \$114 million over 2001 levels – to help North Carolina's neediest children.
- North Carolina has received \$73.2 million in reading grants to help schools and districts improve children's reading achievement through scientifically proven methods of instruction since 2002. President Bush's proposed budget includes an additional \$28.5 million for North Carolina. In total, over six years, North Carolina is set to receive approximately \$153.9 million in Reading First funds.
- "Durham Public Schools officials announced that preliminary end-of-grade test results show Durham students are performing better than ever and the most academically troubled elementary schools are making record gains. The system had the highest percentage of students ever passing the end-of-grade math and reading tests this year. School officials said the testing gains demonstrate a system closing a once-persistent racial achievement gap and successfully absorbing an influx of Hispanic elementary school students, many who speak primarily Spanish. Systemwide, 81.6 percent of third- to eighth-graders passed the tests compared to 61.1 percent in 1997, when the state began the testing program." (*Durham Herald Sun*, 6/4/04)
- "Guilford County Schools has made significant progress in narrowing the so-called 'achievement gap' between white and minority students, according to preliminary state test results from the 2003-04 school year. Black, Hispanic and white students all are doing better than they were five years ago in every subject and at all grade levels. Superintendent Terry Grier said the biggest key to closing the gap has been the district's ability to keep and recruit good teachers." (*Greensboro News & Record*, 6/17/04)
- "Schools in Asheville and Buncombe County are making strides in meeting tough new federal education standards, according to preliminary test results. Seventy-eight percent of 41 schools in the Buncombe district were deemed to have made 'adequate yearly progress' in 2003-04 under the *No Child Left Behind Act*. That's up from 55 percent of schools the previous year." (*Asheville Citizen-Times*, 7/20/04)
- "Union County schools made a strong showing under federal *No Child Left Behind* standards this year. Only 5 of Union County's 31 schools tested did not make adequate yearly progress this year. Last year, 18 of the county's schools did not make AYP. Significant increases in pass rates were a trend. Statewide, about 70 percent of North Carolina's public schools met the standards this year, compared with 47 percent in 2003." (*Charlotte Observer*, 7/22/04)